WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information management apparatus, comprising:
data base storing means for storing a first data base;
consistency maintaining means for performing consistency
maintaining processes by replacing data of said first data base with data of a
second data base different from said first data base; and
data determining means for designating as data of which
consistency is to be maintained between said first and second data bases,
data included in said first data base and having modification time newer
than the time of the last consistency maintaining process, based on
consistency maintaining process time information representing time when
the last consistency maintaining process was performed, and based on data
modification time information corresponding to each data included in said
first data base and representing time when each said data is modified.

2. The information management apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising
time information storing means for storing said consistency
maintaining process time information.

3. The information management apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising
time information obtaining means for obtaining said consistency
maintaining process time information from another information
management apparatus storing said second data base.

4. The information management apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising
data transmitting means connected to said data determining means
for transmitting said data to another information management apparatus
storing said second data base.

5. The information management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said consistency maintaining means includes

means for receiving data transmitted as the data of which consistency is maintained from another information management apparatus storing said second data base, and

means for replacing data corresponding to said received data included in said first data base with said received data.

6. The information management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

data base designating means for designating, among a plurality of stored data bases, said first data base as an object of the consistency maintaining process.

7. A recording medium recording a program for implementing a method of performing consistency maintaining processes using a computer, wherein said method comprises:

the step of storing a first data base;

the step of performing consistency maintaining processes, by replacing data of said first data base with data of a second data base different from said first data base; and

the step of designating as data of which consistency is to be maintained between said first and second data bases, data included in said first data base and having modification time newer than the time of the last consistency maintaining process, based on consistency maintaining process time information representing time when the last consistency maintaining process was performed, and based on data modification time information corresponding to each data included in said first data base and representing time when each said data is modified.

8. An information management apparatus, comprising:

data base storing means for storing a first data base;

consistency maintaining means for performing consistency maintaining processes among said first data base and two or more data bases different from said first data base, by replacing data of said first data base with data of said two or more data bases;

data determining means for designating as data of which consistency is to be maintained among said first data base and said two or more data bases, data included in said first data base and having modification time newer than the time of the last consistency maintaining process, based on consistency maintaining process time information representing time when the last consistency maintaining process was performed, and based on data modification time information corresponding to each data included in said first data base and representing time when each said data is modified; and

data base determining means for determining an order of said two or more data bases as the object with which consistency of the designated data is to be maintained, in accordance with a predetermined priority.

9. The information management apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

said data base determining means includes means for determining order of said two or more data bases as the object of maintaining consistency of said determined data, in accordance with priority represented as an order of time starting from older or newer one, of said consistency maintaining process, represented by said consistency maintaining process time information.

10. The information management apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising

priority storing means for storing said priority; wherein

said data base determining means includes means for determining the order of said two or more data bases as an object with which consistency of said determined data is to be maintained, in accordance with the priority stored in said priority storing means.

11. The information management apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

communication means for communicating with apparatuses respectively storing said two or more data bases; and

5   time point storing means for storing a time point at which communication by said communication means becomes possible; wherein said data base determining means includes means for determining an order of said two or more data bases as the object with which consistency of said determined data is to be maintained, in accordance with the time

10   point stored in said time point storing means.

12. The information management apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising

holding means for holding, while communicating with a first apparatus among said two or more apparatuses, a state in which

5   communication with a second apparatus other than said first apparatus among said two or more apparatuses is possible.

13. A recording medium recording a program for implementing a method of performing consistency maintaining processes using a computer, wherein said method comprises:

the step of storing a first data base;

5   the step of performing consistency maintaining processes among said first data base and two or more data bases different from said first data base, by replacing data of said first data base with data of said two or more data bases;

the step of designating as data of which consistency is to be

10   maintained among said first data base and said two or more data bases, data included in said first data base and having modification time newer than the time of the last consistency maintaining process, based on consistency maintaining process time information representing time when the last consistency maintaining process was performed, and based on data

15   modification time information corresponding to each data included in said

first data base and representing time when each said data is modified; and

the step of determining an order of said two or more data bases as the object with which consistency of the designated data is to be maintained, in accordance with a predetermined priority.